



CORRECTIONAL OFFICER VISION REQUIREMENTS FACT SHEET

- Appointees are required to have normal color vision and corrected or uncorrected vision of 20/20 in each eye.
- Both your color vision and your acuity level (how well you see) will be tested.
- If you do not pass these tests, you will be allowed to proceed in the selection process, but you cannot be appointed until you have met the required vision standards.

The following information is provided to assist you in proceeding with the selection process.

COLOR VISION

You will be given several opportunities to take and pass different kinds of color vision tests. If you do not pass any of the California Department of Corrections (CDC) color vision tests, your case will be reviewed by the Pre-Employment Medical Unit to determine your eligibility.

VISUAL ACUITY LEVELS – (HOW WELL YOU SEE)

If you currently **do not use any type of correction** (glasses or contact lens), you will be tested to ensure that your uncorrected vision is 20/20 in each eye. If you do not pass this test and your vision is not worse than 20/60 in each eye, you may wear glasses to meet the corrected vision standard. You will be given forms to take to your doctor to verify that you have obtained the necessary correction.

If you currently **wear glasses**, your acuity level will be tested with your glasses for your "corrected" acuity level and without them for your "uncorrected" acuity level. If you fail the "corrected" requirement (20/20), but pass the "uncorrected" requirement (20/60), you will need to get new glasses that enable you to meet the "corrected" requirement.

Soft Contact Lenses (SCLs)

If you do not pass the "uncorrected" requirement, you can only be appointed if your vision can be corrected to 20/20 using SCLs. In addition, you will have to demonstrate successful use of the SCLs for one year.

If your uncorrected vision is worse than 20/60, review your situation with your doctor and determine if SCLs are an option for you. If they are and you wish to avail yourself of this accommodation, you should do so **immediately**, so that you can begin the one-year period while going through the other selection components. On the day that we test you, we will give you a form to take to your doctor, to verify your use of SCLs.

If you **currently wear SCLs**, your vision will not be tested. On your testing day you will receive a form to take to your doctor to verify that you have been a successful contact lens wearer for a year and that you are now wearing soft contact lenses (SCL).

EYE SURGERY

If you are contemplating eye surgery to correct your vision to 20/20, keep in mind that you cannot be appointed immediately after the surgery. The California State Personnel Board requires that applicants for peace officer positions who have had refractive eye surgery regularly submit reports from their doctor for one year. The purpose of these reports is to demonstrate that your eye surgery resulted in stable visual function and that you now meet the uncorrected visual acuity requirement.

If you have had or are planning to have refractive eye surgery, on the day of your test please tell the staff and you will be given a package to use for providing the reports. If you are considering this option, because of the one-year requirement, you should explore this option with your doctor **immediately**.



We hope the information provided on this sheet is helpful in preparing for your examination. Please keep in mind that any expenses that you may incur in meeting the color vision and/or the visual acuity requirements or providing the necessary information to the CDC are not reimbursed by the CDC.